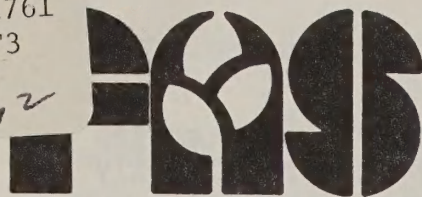


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REPORT

WEEKLY ROUNDUP OF WORLD PRODUCTION AND TRADE

12/22

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Foreign
Agricultural
Service

Washington, D.C. 20250
WR 49-82

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8--The Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture today reported the following recent developments in world agriculture and trade:

GRAIN AND FEED

PROCUREMENT SECTION
CURRENT AFFAIRS

Serious drought conditions continued through November in some northern areas of EASTERN EUROPE, particularly Poland, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic and parts of Romania. The drought has adversely affected sowing and germination of winter grains in these countries, leading to poor stands going into the winter. Although conditions through the winter and spring will determine the eventual crop, the poor start on the 1982 winter grain crop could have some impact on import decisions yet this year. Any increase in imports reflecting the unfavorable fall weather would likely be of wheat. Financing remains the key to the region's eventual imports, however. Imports by the region in 1982/83 are currently forecast at 4.6 million tons for wheat and 4.8 million for coarse grains.

INDIA has purchased 1.455 million tons of U.S. Hard Red Winter wheat for shipment during January-May 1983. Eleven firms participated in the \$244-million sale, with prices reportedly ranging from \$167.10 to \$172.00 per ton. India's wheat import purchases for 1982/83 (July/June) delivery now total 3.95 million tons, all of U.S. origin. India is forecast to import a total of 5 million tons during this period.

CANADA recently announced a 1.7-million-ton sale of wheat to China, bringing total sales to date to 4.2 million tons. The Canadian/Chinese grain agreement was renegotiated in 1982, raising Canadian annual wheat commitments from 2.8 million-3.5 million tons to 3.5 million-4.2 million. Last season, Canada exported just over 3 million tons of wheat to China. Increased export levels this season are particularly welcome to the Canadians, as China has traditionally been a large purchaser of No. 3 Canadian Western Red Spring and Canada has an overabundance of poorer grades in the 1982 crop.

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LYNN KRAWCZYK, Editor, Tel. (202) 382-9442. Additional copies may be obtained from FAS Information Services Staff, 5918-South, Washington, D.C. 20250. Tel. (202) 447-7937.

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OILSEEDS AND PRODUCTS

The SOVIET UNION appears to be taking advantage of large supplies and low prices in world palm oil markets by increasing imports significantly in 1982. Trade reports indicate the Soviets contracted for approximately 270,000 tons of palm oil during the first nine months of 1982, more than double the quantity imported during 1981. Exports from Malaysia and transshipments of Malaysian oil through Singapore account for the entire quantity imported. Palm oil is used primarily in the production of margarine in the Soviet Union and thus may displace imports of other vegetable oils somewhat.

CANADA's Grain Commission has confirmed the low quality of the 1982 rapeseed crop, which may affect the level of 1982/83 rapeseed exports. The amount of No. 1 and No. 2 rapeseed available from stocks and the current crop is below the estimated total export and domestic demand for these qualities. To achieve expected usage levels, buyers will have to accept blends with lower grades. Japan is Canada's largest rapeseed market, and the U.S. agricultural counselor in Tokyo has raised his 1982 Japanese soybean and soybean oil estimates in expectation of a change in buying habits because of the poor quality Canadian rapeseed crop.

In BELGIUM improved export prospects for soybean meal to other European markets, especially France, are leading to larger soybean imports. The U.S. agricultural counselor has raised his import estimate for soybean imports for Belgium/Luxembourg to 1.5 million tons in 1982 and to 1.6 million tons in 1983. Soybean meal exports are forecast to increase 34 percent over 1981 to 1 million tons and increase again to over 1.1 million tons in 1983.

VEGETABLES

SPAIN's 1982 processing tomato crop, estimated at 543,000 tons, is 14 percent above last year. Total crop area was down 1,000 hectares from the 1981 level of 16,000 hectares, while yields were up from last year's harvest by 21 percent. However, high temperatures and dry weather reduced anticipated production in the Ebro region, which traditionally accounts for about one-third of Spain's output. The quality also was reportedly lowered by the adverse summer weather. Grower prices were 5 to 7 percent higher in the Estremadura region, while prices in the Ebro area were 33 to 44 percent above last year.

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COFFEE, TEA AND COCOA

COLOMBIA's Coffee Growers Federation has accepted the government's recommendation to stabilize coffee production at current levels of 13.0 million-13.5 million bags (60 kg. each). At this level of production, some 2 million bags of coffee would be added to stocks each year at current levels of utilization. Production would be adjusted according to world demand and the International Coffee Organization's quota. A program to provide income alternatives to growers through the production of other foodstuffs would be continued. However, the rugged terrain in coffee areas impedes this diversification effort.

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Selected International Prices

Item	December 7, 1982	Change from previous week	A year ago
	\$ per MT	\$ per bu.	\$ per MT
ROTTERDAM PRICES 1/			
Wheat:			
Canadian No. 1 CWRS-13.5%.*	202.00	5.50	-5.50
U.S. No. 2 DNS/NS: 14%....	181.50	4.94	-.50
U.S. No. 2 DHW/HW: 13.5%.**	N.Q.	--	--
U.S. No. 2 S.R.W.....	156.00	4.25	-2.00
U.S. No. 3 H.A.D.....	182.00	4.95	+4.50
Canadian No. 1 A: Durum...	N.Q.	--	--
Feed grains:			
U.S. No. 3 Yellow Corn....	118.00	3.00	+1.75
U.S. No. 2 Sorghum 2/.....	N.Q.	--	--
Feed Barley 3/.....	N.Q.	--	--
Soybeans and meal:			
U.S. No. 2 Yellow.....	233.25	6.35	+1.75
Brazil 47/48% SoyaPellets 4/	228.50	--	-.50
U.S. 44% Soybean Meal.....	216.50	--	-2.50
U.S. FARM PRICES 5/			
Wheat.....	127.13	3.46	-3.67
Barley.....	62.00	1.35	-4.13
Corn.....	86.61	2.20	-5.11
Sorghum.....	87.30	3.96 6/	-5.29
Broilers 7/.....	870.38	--	-3.30
EC IMPORT LEVIES			
Wheat 8/.....	105.37	2.87	+16.00
Barley.....	102.14	2.22	+6.87
Corn.....	104.75	2.66	+10.11
Sorghum.....	96.30	2.45	+8.70
Broilers 9/.....	304.00	--	+8.00 10/
EC INTERVENTION PRICES 11/			
Common wheat(feed quality)	180.60	4.91	+4.65
Bread wheat.....	199.22	5.42	+5.14
Barley and all other feed grains.....	180.60	--	+4.65
Broilers 12/.....	1126.00	--	+19.00
EC EXPORT RESTITUTIONS (subsidies)			
Wheat.....	69.53	1.89	+7.81
Wheat flour.....	93.76	--	0
Barley.....	72.08	1.57	+1.40
Broilers 9/.....	196.00	--	+5.00 10/
Sugar, refined 13/.....	N.Q.	--	N.Q.

1/ Asking prices in U.S. dollars for imported grain and soybeans, c.i.f., Rotterdam. 2/ Optional delivery: Argentine Granifero sorghum. 3/ Optional delivery: Canadian feed barley. 4/ Optional delivery: Argentine. 5/ Based on selected major markets and adjusted to reflect farm prices more closely. 6/ Hundredweight (CWT). 7/ Nine-city average; wholesale weighted average. 8/ Durum has a special levy. 9/ EC category--70 percent whole chicken. 10/ Change in dollar value of broiler levy or restitution generally reflects currency fluctuations and not change in level set by EC. 11/ Basically the intervention price is the EC farm price support, determined annually. 12/ F.o.b. price for whole broilers at West German border. 13/ Nov. 24 N.Q.=Not quoted.

Note: Basis December delivery. * April-May. ** January.

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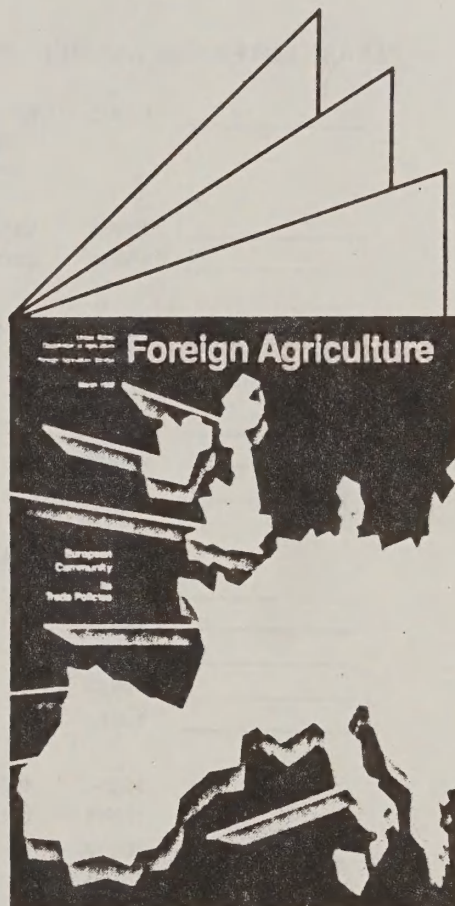
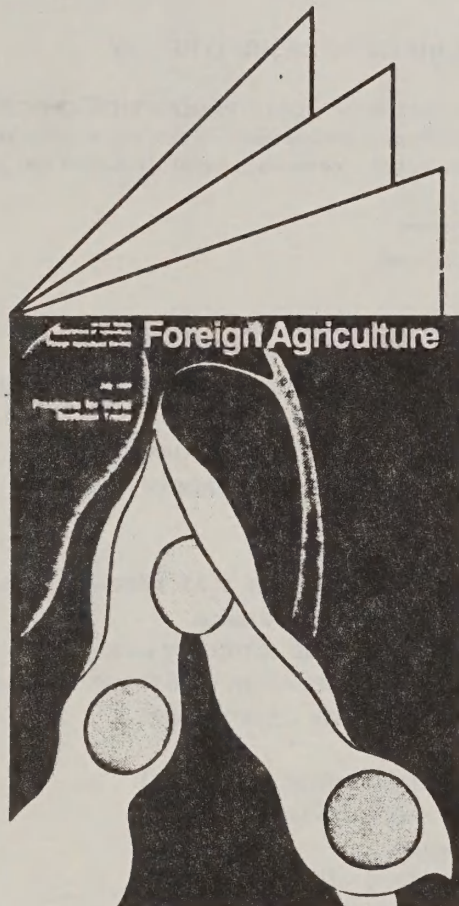
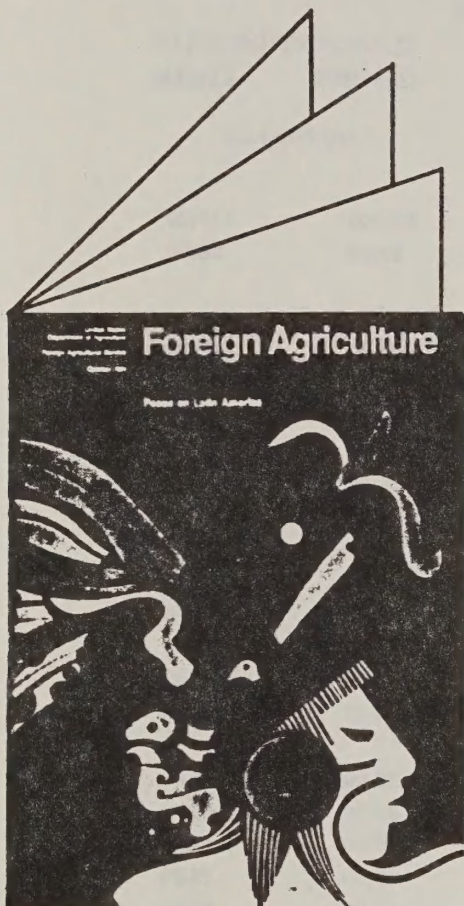
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